

Amendments to the Claims: This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) An iridium alloy, consisting essentially of iridium, Rh and at least one of W and Zr; wherein the Rh comprises between 0.1 and 2.5 wt% of the alloy; wherein when present, W comprises between 0.01 and 5 wt% of the alloy; wherein when present in combination with W, Zr comprises between 0.01 and 0.5 wt% of the alloy; and wherein when present in combination with the Rh only, Zr comprises between 0.01 and 0.09 wt% of the alloy.
2. (Previously Presented) An iridium alloy according to claim 1, wherein when present, W comprises between 0.01 and 0.5 wt% of the alloy; and wherein when present in combination with the Rh only, Zr comprises between 0.02 and 0.07 wt% of the alloy.
3. (Previously Presented) An alloy comprising an iridium alloy consisting essentially of iridium, Rh and at least one of W and Zr; wherein the Rh comprises between 0.1 and 2.5 wt% of the alloy; wherein when present, W comprises between 0.01 and 5 wt% of the alloy; wherein when present in combination with W, Zr comprises between 0.01 and 0.5 wt% of the alloy; and wherein when present in combination with the Rh only, Zr comprises between 0.01 and 0.09 wt% of the alloy, modified by the addition of Pt in an amount of between 0.1 and 5 wt% of the alloy.
4. (Previously Presented) An alloy comprising an iridium alloy consisting essentially of iridium, Rh and at least one of W and Zr; wherein the Rh comprises between 0.1 and 2.5 wt% of the alloy; wherein when present, W comprises between 0.01 and 5 wt% of the alloy; wherein when present in combination with W, Zr comprises between 0.01 and 0.5 wt% of the alloy; and wherein when present in combination with the Rh only, Zr comprises between 0.01 and 0.09 wt% of the alloy, modified by the addition of one or more of Ta, Nb, Mo, Cr, Ce, Sc, Lu, Co, Ni, Hf, Y, Ti, Ru and Pd individually in an amount of between 0.01 and 10 wt% of the alloy.

5. (Original) An alloy according to claim 4, wherein when present, Ta, Nb, Mo, Cr, Ce, Sc, Lu, Co, Ni, Hf, Y and Ti individually comprise between 0.01 and 0.5 wt% of the alloy; and wherein when present, Ru and Pd individually comprise between 0.1 and 5 wt% of the alloy.
6. (Previously Presented) An iridium alloy according to claim 1, the alloy consisting essentially of iridium, Rh, W, and Zr.
7. (Previously Presented) An iridium alloy according to claim 3, the alloy consisting essentially of iridium, Pt, Rh, W and Zr.
8. (Previously Presented) An iridium alloy according to claim 1, the alloy consisting essentially of iridium, Rh and W.
9. (Previously Presented) An iridium alloy according to claim 1, the alloy consisting essentially of iridium, Rh and Zr.
10. (Original) An alloy according to claim 3, the alloy consisting essentially of iridium, Pt, Rh and W.
11. (Canceled)
12. (Canceled)
13. (Previously Presented) An iridium alloy according to claim 3, wherein when present, W comprises between 0.01 and 0.5 wt% of the alloy; and wherein when present in combination with the Rh only, Zr comprises between 0.02 and 0.07 wt% of the alloy.
14. (Previously Presented) An iridium alloy according to claim 4, wherein when present, W comprises between 0.01 and 0.5 wt% of the alloy; and wherein when present in combination with the Rh only, Zr comprises between 0.02 and 0.07 wt% of the alloy.
15. (Previously Presented) An alloy according to claim 4, further comprising Pt is in an amount of between 0.1 and 5 wt% of the alloy.

16. (Previously Presented) An iridium alloy according to claim 2, the alloy consisting essentially of iridium, Rh, W, and Zr.
17. (Previously Presented) An iridium alloy according to claim 2, the alloy consisting essentially of iridium, Rh and W.
18. (Previously Presented) An iridium alloy according to claim 2 the alloy consisting essentially of iridium, Rh and Zr.